

In smaller centres would stay within five minutes' of shelter and go there right away when the airraid warning sounds. They would stay there until told by civil defence officers it is safe to come out.



Under Step 3, those moving out from a target area would keep going. Those in shelters would stay there until told to come out. Trained rescuers would move into the damaged area to help save life.



Under Step 4, as soon as possible, civil defence officers would try to bring families together and make things more comfortable for people who have lost their homes. The authorities would also begin to sort out where people could go to live.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Defence against the H-bomb is a big problem. Evacuation plans, to work at all, must be carefully planned and tested. Civil defence workers and all citizens must know exactly what to do and when to do it.

The time to begin learning is now. Your local civil defence team needs your support. If there is no civil defence organization in your community, do everything in your power as a citizen to help create one.

There are two things every citizen can do in civil defence. The first is to learn to do everything you can to protect your own life and the lives of your family. The second is to do everything you can as a citizen to make sure your local civil defence team is strong and active.

If we are attacked with H-bombs, thousands of Canadians will die. But if we are ready; if we are trained; if we know what to do and if we do it, the number killed will be far less. You can help save many lives. And one of them may be your own.

THE WARNING

ALERT — When enemy aircraft are detected approaching our country, and an attack seems about to take place, the **Alert** will be sounded in all areas. This signal is a steady note on civil defence sirens. It will last from three to five minutes and will be repeated as often as necessary. It is the signal for evacuation.

Take Cover — When enemy aircraft are close to the target area, take cover will be sounded. This signal — a rising and falling siren note — means that attack may take place at any minute. It is the signal to take cover immediately.

THE H BOMB

and



H BOMB

Published for Civil Defence by Information Services Division,
Dept. of National Health and Welfare
by authority of the Minister Hon. J. Walter Manulak

1-559

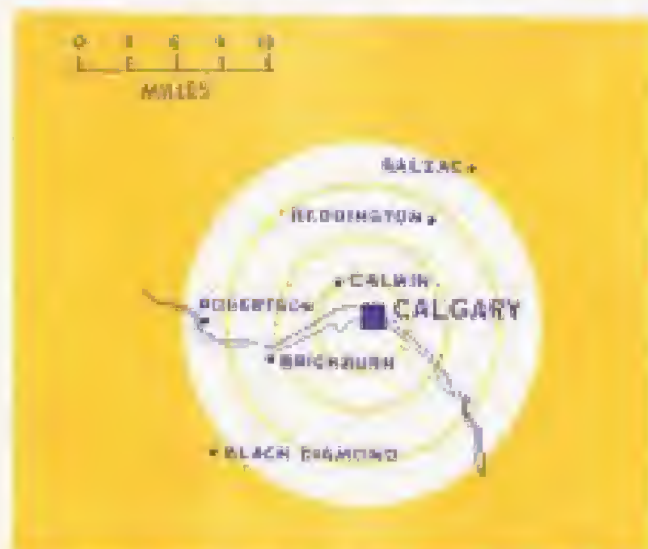
THE HYDROGEN BOMB AND CIVIL DEFENCE



THE PROBLEM

The job of civil defence is to save life when disaster strikes. The hydrogen bomb, or the H-bomb, is the most powerful weapon yet invented. If, therefore, a civil defence team can deal with an H-bomb, it can deal with any other disaster that may occur.

The H-bomb has three immediate effects — blast, heat and radiation. There is also a "delayed action" effect known as "fall-out".



The sketch on this page shows roughly the areas that would be affected by heat, blast and radiation from a hydrogen bomb. After such a burst, everything within three miles of the point where the bomb went off would be completely destroyed and everyone in this area would be dead. For the next three miles, damage would be very heavy and most people would be killed. Out to nine miles there would be some damage and many people would die, particularly those not in shelters. Out to twelve miles, damage would be seen but people who had taken cover would probably live through the blast.

When an H-bomb is exploded near the ground, great quantities of dust are sucked up into the mushroom cloud. This dust becomes "radioactive", that is, it gives off dangerous rays. The larger parts of dust soon fall to the ground close to the explosion. These pieces of dust are very dangerous.

The smaller dust particles are thrown high into the upper air and drift with the wind for many miles, slowly spilling out over the countryside. This dust is known as "fall-out". It covers everything within a cigar-shaped area more than 100 miles long and up to 20 miles in width. The danger is strongest near the bomb burst.

Humans and animals in this fall-out are in danger from "radiation sickness". Unless they take shelter they may die. Their food and water supplies may become unsafe, their crops ruined.

It takes about an hour from the time of the burst to the beginning of fall-out at a distance of 25 miles downwind of the bomb blast. (This time lag is greater farther from the blast and the strength of the dangerous rays is also less.) At a distance of 50 miles from the burst, even downwind, people will live if they stay in their basements or better still, sandbagged basement shelters or underground shelters.

The greatest danger area from deadly rays is not likely to be more than 100 miles from the explosion in the open or 50 miles in shelter downwind of the burst.

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?

There are two ways of saving life under H-bomb attack.

1. Don't be there when it happens.
2. Take cover.

No air raid shelter is absolutely safe closer than six miles from the explosion. Since nobody knows just where an enemy would drop his bomb, the only safe defence against the H-bomb is space — distance. This means evacuation of built-up areas which may be attacked.

Canadian civil defence has worked out a plan in four steps by which many thousands of lives can be saved.

STEP 1 — Thin out the people in big cities before an attack.

STEP 2 — Move out everyone else from these cities when an attack is about to take place.

STEP 3 — Rescue work right after the H-bomb bursts.

STEP 4 — Help for those who have lost relatives, homes and possessions.



Under Step 1, about one-third of the people in a city — women, children, the sick, school and hospital staffs, etc. — would be taken out from the city. This would be done when war seems about to begin. These people would stay out of the target area as long as necessary.



Under Step 2, everyone still in the city would be taken out when an attack is about to take place. This group would go out at least 50 miles from the city, following a route planned to avoid fall-out.

In smaller centres, under Step 1, people would arrange to look after those taken out from the target areas. They would check their shelters and food supplies. Under Step 2, people